

the place to live

AGENDA

Council Meeting to be held at Darebin Civic Centre, 350 High Street Preston on Monday, 4 December 2017 at 6.00 pm.

Public question time will commence shortly after 6.00 pm.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS AND ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITIES IN DAREBIN

Darebin City Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri people as the traditional owners and custodians of the land we now call Darebin and pays respect to their Elders, past, present and future.

Council pays respect to other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities in Darebin.

Council recognises, and pays tribute to, the diverse culture, resilience and heritage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

We acknowledge the leadership of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and the right to self-determination in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect.

Italian

Questo è l'ordine del giorno della riunione del Consiglio Comunale di Darebin per la data che compare sulla prima pagina di questo documento. Se desiderate informazioni in lingua italiana sugli argomenti dell'ordine del giorno, siete pregati di chiamare la Linea Telefonica Multilingue del Comune al 8470 8888.

Greek

Αυτή είναι η ημερήσια διάταξη για τη συνεδρίαση του Δημοτικού Συμβουλίου Darebin, για την ημερομηνία που φαίνεται στο εξώφυλλο αυτού του εγγράφου. Αν θα θέλατε πληροφορίες στα Ελληνικά σχετικά με τα θέματα σ' αυτή την ημερήσια διάταξη, παρακαλούμε καλέστε την Πολυγλωσσική Τηλεφωνική Γραμμή του Δήμου στον αριθμό 8470 8888.

Chinese

這是一份戴瑞濱市議會議程表,其開會日期顯示於此文件之封面。如果您欲索取有關此議程表的中文資料,敬請致電 8470 8888 聯絡市議會的多語種電話專線。

Arabic

هذا هو جدول أعمال اجتماع مجلس بلدية داريبين والذي سيعقد في التاريخ الوارد في الصفحة الأولى من هذه الوتيّقة. إذا أردت الحصول على مزيد من المعلومات في اللغة العربية حول المواضيع المذكورة في جدول الأعمال، فيرجى الاتصال برقم هاتف البلدية المتعدد اللغات 8888 8470

Macedonian

Ова е дневниот ред за состанокот на Општината на Градот Даребин, која ќе биде на датумот покажан на предната корица од овој документ. Ако Вие сакате некои информации на Македонски јазик, за предметите на овој дневен ред, Ве молиме повикајте ја Општинската Повеќејазична Телефонска Линија на 8470 8888.

Vietnamese

Đây là nghị trình cho cuộc họp của Hội đồng Thành phố Darebin; ngày họp có ghi ở trang bià tài liệu này. Muốn biết thêm về chương trình nghị sự bằng Việt ngữ, xin gọi cho Đường dây Điện

thoại Đa Ngôn ngữ của Hội đồng Thành phố qua số 8470 8888.

Bosnian

Ovo je dnevni red za sastanak Gradske općine Darebin čiji je datum održavanja naznačen na prvoj strani ovog dokumenta. Ako želite više informacija o tačkama ovog dnevnog reda na bosanskom jeziku, molimo nazovite općinsku višejezičnu telefonsku službu na 8470 8888.

Croatian

Ovo je dnevni red sastanka u Darebin City Council za dan koji je naveden na prednjem ovitku ovog dokumenta. Ako želite informacije o točkama ovog dnevnog reda na hrvatskom jeziku, molimo da nazovete Council Multilingual Telephone Line (Višejezičnu telefonsku liniju) na 8470 8888.

Portuguese

Esta é a pauta para a reunião da Câmara Municipal de Darebin a ser realizada na data que consta na capa deste documento. Se você deseja informação em Português sobre os itens desta pauta, por favor ligue para a Linha Telefônica Multilíngue da Câmara no 8470 8888.

Serbian

Ово је дневни ред за састанак Darebin City Council-а (Градско веће Darebin) који ће се одржати на дан који је наведен на насловној страни овог документа. Ако желите информације на српском о тачкама дневног реда, молимо вас да назовете Council Multilingual Telephone Line (Вишејезичку телефонску линију Већа), на 8470 8888.

Somali

Kuwani waa qodobada shirka lagaga wada hadli doono ee Degmada Degaanka Darebin ee taariikhda lagu xusey boga ugu sareeya ee qoraalkan. Haddii aad doonysid wararka ku saabsan qodobadan oo ku qoran Af-Somali, fadlan ka wac Khadka Taleefanka Afafka ee Golaha oo ah 8470 8888.

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Agenda

1. MEMBERSHIP

- Cr. Kim Le Cerf (Mayor) (Chairperson)
- Cr. Steph Amir
- Cr. Gaetano Greco
- Cr. Tim Laurence
- Cr. Trent McCarthy
- Cr. Lina Messina (Deputy Mayor)
- Cr. Susanne Newton
- Cr. Susan Rennie
- Cr. Julie Williams

2. APOLOGIES

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

4. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 20 November 2017 be confirmed as a correct record of business transacted.

5. QUESTION AND SUBMISSION TIME

Members of the public can lodge questions for Council to answer or make a Comment or Submission prior to a specific item listed on the Agenda of an Ordinary Council meeting.

QUESTIONS

Members of the public can ask up to two (2) questions at an Ordinary Council meeting.

Questions submitted online will be responded to in the first instance. If you are not present at the meeting, the Chairperson will read the question and provide a response. The Chairperson may then take questions from members in the gallery.

Any question not answered at the meeting will be taken on notice and a written response will be provided to the person asking the question.

In accordance with the Darebin Governance Local Law, the Chairperson may disallow a question if it:

- is defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable in language or substance; or
- deals with a subject matter already answered; or
- is aimed at embarrassing a Councillor or an officer.

If you are unable to submit your question prior to the Ordinary Council meeting, the Chairperson may take questions from the floor.

SUBMISSIONS OR COMMENTS

Members of the public may make a comment or 2 minute submission on a matter listed on the Agenda prior to the item being debated.

A person who is unable to stay at the meeting until the Agenda item is heard, may make their comment or submission during Question Time.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR QUESTION OR MAKE A COMMENT OR SUBMISSION

Members of the public who wish to ask a question, or make a comment or submission to an agenda item, at an Ordinary Council meeting are encouraged to do so in one of the following ways:

- (a) online at darebin.vic.gov.au/questionsandsubmissions by 3pm on the day of the meeting; or
- (b) by email to <u>Q&S@darebin.vic.gov.au</u>; by 3pm on the day of the meeting: or
- (c) in person at the Preston Customer Service Centre, 274 Gower Street, Preston; or
- (d) by mail to PO Box 91, Preston 3072; or
- (e) with a Council officer prior to a Council meeting.

Council meetings can be viewed at the Watch Council and Planning Committee meetings page.

Agenda's will be available for viewing on Council's website at the 'Meeting Agendas and Minutes' page by 5pm, up to 6 days prior to the date of the meeting. Copies are also available at Customer Service centres and libraries

6. URGENT BUSINESS

7. PETITIONS

8. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

8.1 YOUNG CITIZEN JURY OUTCOMES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Author: Coordinator Youth Services

Reviewed By: Director Community Development

Report Background

This report is to provide Council with an update on the delivery of the Young Citizens Jury in September – October 2017. The Darebin Young Citizen's Jury was established to answer the questions "What do young people want and need to thrive in a rapidly changing world?" This report is in response to item four of the council resolution from the meeting held on 19 June 2017.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 19 June 2017 Council resolved:

'That Council makes the following commitments as part of the 2017 INLLEN Jobs for Youth Campaign, in line with the Council Plan:

- Incorporates a 'youth employment and participation dividend' in the Procurement policy, requiring all contracted providers across the organisation to include 10% of all Council-related work (or an appropriate equivalent of other workforce participation experiences) be provided to young people aged 15 to 25.
- 2) Signs on to INLLEN's recently launched 'Industry Mentoring Bank'
- 3) Establishes a single entry point within Council for all student work experience and work placement opportunities to ensure equity of access to local students and increase the provision of such opportunities across all Council areas.
- 4) Convenes a 'young citizens jury' in September and October comprised of local young people as part of the Jobs for Youth campaign. The young citizens jury will provide recommendations to:
 - a. Council and other relevant bodies on what young people want and need to thrive in a rapidly changing world.
 - b. Council's new Youth Strategy and other Council strategies where relevant.'

Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 5 – Involving our diverse community

5.2 We bring the ideas of our diverse community into our decision making.

Summary

The Darebin Young Citizen Jury was delivered during September 2017 – October 2017 during the regional Job's for Youth Campaign.

The initiatives key purpose was to provide Darebin young people with a platform that enabled them to contribute to solutions to issues that directly affected them.

Twenty one (21) young people aged 15 -21 were recruited through an expression of interest process to participate in the young citizen jury. Over the month of September three sessions were delivered and provided participants with an opportunity to discuss all the issues that affect them and their peers ability to thrive while also be involved in the crafting of youth-led solutions to address these issues.

A total of 22 solutions were identified across seven issue domains. These solutions were shortlisted to 7 priority solutions that were categorised as practical (the ability to implement within existing resource capacity) and aspirational (will be built into the New Youth and Middle Years Strategy).

The following table outlines the program schedule that was undertaken as part of the delivery process.

18 – 29 September	EOI open regarding the Young Citizen Jury
2 – 3 October	Assess EOI and contact selected participants
12 October	Session 1: Presentations from key service providers regarding 'Current Issues Affecting Young People'
19 October	Session 2: Issues and Solution Discussion
26 October	Session 3: Issues and Solution Discussion and Shortlisting of priority solutions
30 November	Council Briefing and Program Celebration
4 December	Report to Council – On the Young Citizen Jury outcomes and Identified Solutions

Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Notes the report and the recommended solutions identified by young people through the conduct of the Darebin Young Citizen Jury.
- (2) Notes that new initiative applications to support the Darebin Young Citizen Jury recommendations will be referred to the 2018/19 budget process.

Introduction

Over a three week period in October the Darebin Young Citizen Jury members met to discuss the issues and potential solutions regarding what young people want and need to thrive within Darebin.

The initiative delivered three core outcomes for young people within Darebin, these included;

• Young people actively involved in representative democracy;

- Youth led decisions and solutions identified to issues; and
- Enhanced connections with young people and the decision making function of local government.

Over the past five years youth services has delivered a number of youth engagement and active participation activities all with varying levels of success. Following the 2016 Youth Services Review enhanced civic participation and engagement functions should be further integrated into the core business of youth services. This function should further enhance the connection of young people and council and bridge the void around represented democracy for young people.

The Young Citizen Jury has delivered significant outcomes and enhanced connections for the service and young people. The initiative has allowed for more purposeful connection and engagement and has cemented young people as the experts of their lives and validated their role as co-designers to solutions.

Issues and Discussion

Jury Members Demographics

Achieving strong diversity within the Jury membership was a critical target as part of the expression of interest process. A diverse engagement and communication strategy was utilised to capture young people from all wards, genders, a diverse cultural representation and a diverse social and economic situation. Out of the 22 jury participants 100% were local to Darebin. Significant diversity was achieved and true representation across the municipality was clear. This is reflected through:

- Ward Representation La Trobe (51%), Cazaly (24%) and Rucker 25%)
- 50% spoke a language other than English
- 16% identified as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander
- 16% identified as a person with a disability
- 55% were female and 45% were male

Issues Affecting Young People

Through the discussion and the application process the jury identified a number of key issues currently affecting Darebin young people. All the issues identified had a level of lived experience as the environment created allowed the young people to share and disclose both positive and negative experiences regarding the following issues.

- Family Commitments
- Motivation/Low Self Esteem
- Supportive Role models
- Financial and Economic Stress
- Housing availability (Private and Social)
- Discrimination and Identity
- Employment Opportunities
- Training and Education Pathways
- Connections within Community

These issues have formed the basis of the recommended solutions that are detailed in this report and will be implemented from 2018 onwards.

Recommended Solutions

More than 21 recommended solutions were identified through the process. These were shortlisted through a voting system to the top seven solutions. All the other solutions (14) will be fed into the other planning frameworks of 2018 for the youth services team and also be represented in the literature review supporting the new Youth and Middle Years Strategy currently under development.

The top seven recommended solutions to be actioned in 2018 include;

- 1) Life skills Explore the delivery of a mentoring program that supports young people with an adult in their life to support their transition into independence.
- 2) Social Media Recruit a group of young people as 'service ambassadors' that provide advice regarding communication and engagement content for council's digital communication platforms.
- **3)** Life Skills Deliver a series of workshops to young people aged 15 -21 that provide basic life skills outcomes. (workshops to be delivered in both a school and community setting).
- 4) Housing Provide free sanitary product packs for young people experiencing homelessness and or sleeping rough
- 5) Mental Health Deliver an educational program that provides advice to young people around how to deliver peer to peer support. (Key support topics include sexual health and mental health)
- 6) Mental Health Work with schools and community agencies to deliver mental health awareness programs that reduce stigma and normalise the conversation regarding mental health.
- 7) **Employment and Training -** Advocate for further volunteering opportunities with local business and local services to increase job skills

Importantly the delivery of these recommended solutions will involve the process of codesign. Young people from the Citizen Jury will be advising council officers regarding the design, development and implementation of these recommended solutions.

Options for Consideration

- 1. Council note and support the top seven recommended solutions to be actioned in 2018 and the intent to consider the remaining solutions (14) through a range of Youth Services planning processes.
- 2. Council not support the outcomes and recommended solutions of the Darebin Young Citizen Jury.

Financial and Resource Implications

An existing budget of \$50,000 has been allocated as part of the Citizen Jury program to support the implementation of a number of the solutions identified and detailed within the report.

Further a new initiative application will be submitted as part of the 2018/19 operational budget process to further progress the recommendations.

Youth Services has existing staff resources and capacity to support the ongoing coordination of the program.

Risk Management

No risks have been identified as part of the report.

Policy Implications

Economic Development

There are no factors in this report which directly impact upon economic development

Environmental Sustainability

There are no factors in this report which impact upon environmental sustainability

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

Young people are an underrepresented voice within the local community. Due to their position within the community they at times at risk of exclusion. The Jury process has sought to provide a voice and representation for young people within the City of Darebin.

Other

There are no other factors which impact on this report

Future Actions

- Officers will develop a solutions implementation plan for 2018;
- Reconvene the Darebin Young Citizen's Jury and establish a meeting schedule for 2018;
- Incorporate feedback and solutions into the consultations for the new Youth and Middle Years Strategy;
- Explore options for the implementation of an annual Young Citizen Jury as a key way Council engages with young people;
- Officers to report back to council by November 2018 regarding the outcomes of the 2017 solutions;
- Submit a new initiative application as part of the 2018/19 budget progress to support the implementation of the recommendations; and
- As part of a sector advocacy project coordinate a meeting with Youth Affairs Council Victoria (YACVIC) regarding a model that could replicate the Jury process at a state-wide level.

Consultation and Advocacy

- Coordinator Youth Services
- Youth Resource Officer
- Darebin Young Citizen Jury Member

Related Documents

• Council Minutes – 19 June 2017

Attachments

Nil

Disclosure of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

8.2 PROPOSED RENAMING OF BATMAN PARK TO GUMBRI PARK

Author: Property Manager

Reviewed By: Director Operations and Environment

Report Background

This report provides information on the outcome of the statutory process for the proposed renaming of Batman Park and recommends that Council endorse the Batman Park Naming Committee's recommendation for Batman Park to be renamed Gumbri Park, and to lodge the renaming proposal with the Office of Geographic Names.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 17 July 2017, Council resolved:

"That Council:

- (1) Formally thank the Wurundjeri Council and in particular the exemplary commitment and diligence shown by Wurundjeri Elders who actively took part in the community consultation and engagement process.
- (2) Thank the Darebin community for its support in working towards reconciliation with our local indigenous population.
- (3) Endorse Gumbri Park as the preferred option for renaming Batman Park.
- (4) Commence the statutory process in accordance with the requirements of the Geographic Place Name Act 1998 and the Names rules for places in Victoria Statutory requirements for naming roads, features and localities 2016 for the proposed renaming of Batman Park to Gumbri Park.
- (5) Receive a further report and recommendations from the Batman Park Naming Committee following the completion of the statutory process."

Previous Briefing(s)

- 9 November 2017
- 15 June 2017
- 20 February 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

- Goal 5 Involving our diverse community
- Darebin Aboriginal Action Plan 2012-2017
- Darebin Equity and Inclusion Policy 2012-2016
- Darebin Human Rights Action Plan 2012-2016

Summary

This report provides history and background relating to proposed renaming of Batman Park to Gumbri Park, as well as the outcome of the statutory process and recommendation from the Batman Park Naming Committee (Naming Committee).

In the spirit of reconciliation with the Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, Council sought to investigate the renaming of Batman Park to better recognise and reflect the Wurundjeri history of the local area. The comprehensive community consultation undertaken in 2016 confirmed strong community support for the renaming of Batman Park with overwhelming support for the name Gumbri. Gumbri, also known as Jessie Hunter, was a much loved and respected Wurundjeri Elder who had a great passion for Wurundjeri people and Country. Earlier this year, the Wurundjeri Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage Council Aboriginal Corporation (Wurundjeri Council) formally endorsed the name.

In accordance with the requirements of the *Geographic Place Name Act 1998* (Act), the *Names rules for places in Victoria – Statutory requirements for naming roads, features and localities 2016* (Rules), and Council's Road and Place Naming Policy 2014 (Policy), Council is required to undergo a statutory consultation process before a public road, feature or locality can be named or renamed.

At its ordinary meeting on 17 July 2017, Council authorised the commencement of the statutory process for the proposed renaming of Batman Park to Gumbri Park. The statutory process commenced on 24 July 2017, ending on 17 August 2017. Thirteen submissions were received. The Naming Committee, having regard to the Act, the Rules and Council's Policy, and after considering all submissions, unanimously agreed to recommend to Council that Batman Park's official name be changed to Gumbri Park.

This report recommends that Council accepts the Naming Committee's recommendation and endorse the renaming of Batman Park to Gumbri Park.

Recommendation

That Council:

Having given public notice of a proposal to rename Batman Park to Gumbri Park, shown on the attached plan in **Appendix A** to this report, and having considered submissions in respect of this proposal under section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*:

- (1) Endorses the Batman Park Naming Committee's recommendation that:
 - (a) Batman Park be renamed Gumbri Park;
 - (b) any signage relating to the name provides for phonetic translation; and
 - (c) an historical storyboard be developed and positioned in the park.
- (2) Delegates power to the Manager, Strategic Asset Management to lodge the application to the Office of Geographic Names for the renaming of Batman Park to Gumbri Park;
- (3) Advises all submitters of Council's decision regarding the proposed renaming of Batman Park to Gumbri Park; and
- (4) Implements a comprehensive communication and engagement plan to ensure community is well informed about the next steps in the naming process including any temporary entry upgrade roll-out and ongoing work.

Introduction

In the spirit of reconciliation with the Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, Council sought to investigate the renaming of Batman Park to better recognise and reflect the Wurundjeri history of the local area. The Wurundjeri Tribe are the Traditional Owners of the land upon which the City of Darebin stands today.

Batman Park is located at 152-154 St Georges Road, Northcote and is shown on the attached plan in **Appendix A**.

Between July and September last year, Council, together with the support from Wurundjeri Elders, consulted with the community on three potential names for Batman Park. This consultation process indicated strong community support for the renaming of Batman Park, with overwhelming support for the name Gumbri.

Gumbri, also known as Jessie Hunter, was a much loved and respected Wurundjeri Elder. Her name means 'white dove' in Woi wurrung, the traditional language of the Wurundjeri people. Gumbri was the last girl born on the Corranderrk Aboriginal Reserve in Healesville and she had a great passion for Wurundjeri people and Country with a special interest in bush foods and medicines.

On 1 March 2017, the name, Gumbri, was formerly endorsed by the Wurundjeri Council.

At its ordinary meeting on 17 July 2017, Council authorised the commencement of the statutory process for the proposed renaming of Batman Park to Gumbri Park.

Issues and Discussion

1. 2016 Community Consultation

A comprehensive community consultation and engagement process was undertaken by Council in conjunction with the Wurundjeri Council around the potential renaming of Batman Park, late in 2016. The summary findings, which are contained in **Appendix B**, suggested that:

- There is an appetite and a positive disposition across the municipality for actions which support reconciliation and acknowledgement of Traditional Owners.
- The community living around Batman Park support, and are ready for, a name change in the spirit of reconciliation.
- There was a high level of community interest and active support shown during the community consultation and engagement process for the proposed renaming of Batman Park.
- Out of the three names Be Be Jern, Billibellary and Gumbri that were proposed by the Wurundjeri Council and provided to the community for consideration, there was overwhelming support for the name, Gumbri.
- Having Elders lead the discussions was powerful and significant in many ways to the community who attended and to the Elders themselves. Community members were keen to honour and defer to Elders, while Elders were genuinely surprised and delighted by the response they received.
- The true history of the park is not erased by the renaming ('it's our shared history') and that Batman's name and legacy be captured and memorialised in some way within the park and that this may also be an important consideration when selecting other potential sites for naming or renaming.

 In the spirit of the community sentiment expressed throughout this project, the composition of the Naming Committee will provide Council with a range of community views on each naming proposal and will be supported by technical advice from Council staff.

2. External Stakeholder Consultation

Council extended its consultation and engagement process communication to external stakeholders, including the local kindergarten, a descendant of John Batman, emergency services and service authorities. Meetings, discussions and correspondence have provided the stakeholders with the opportunity to contribute to the process.

Ambulance Victoria has requested that should the name of the park be changed, signage be updated to reflect the change to avoid any confusion with dispatching emergency services to the park. They have further requested that if the name "Batman Park' is used in the park then there is clear signage informing the community of the new name (if required).

3. Legislation

The *Geographic Place Names Act 1998* (Act) gave the responsibility for investigation and determination of geographic names and the notification of new or altered geographic names for inclusion in VICNAMES (the geographic names register) to local governing and administering bodies. Geographic names include suburbs, streets, reserves schools, parks and other geographic features, including pedestrian bridges.

When considering the naming/renaming of a place or feature as a naming authority, the Darebin City Council is required to comply with the *Names rules for places in Victoria – Statutory requirements for naming roads, features and localities 2016* (Rules), as well as its Policy.

It is important to note that the renaming of a road, feature or locality does not remove a previous name. That name becomes the historical name, which is retained in VICNAMES. Additionally, the use of a name from an Aboriginal language requires approval from the Traditional Owners, which in this instance has been obtained.

4. Statutory Consultation Process

The statutory consultation process occurred during July and August 2017. It provided the community with an opportunity to express their opinion about the proposal within the 30 day consultation period. People could object to the proposal, support it or provide comment on it without expressing support or opposition.

The process included:

- Over 1000 letters informing the community of the proposed renaming of Batman Park to Gumbri Park were circulated to the surrounding residents and businesses within 500m radius of the park. A copy of the letter appears in **Appendix C**.
- Advertisements were posted in local newspapers and Council's website.
- Submissions were invited either in writing or via email and were required to include the submitter's name and address.

4.1 Submissions

The statutory process closed on 17 August 2017 with a total of thirteen submissions, one of which was received after the consultation period had closed.

- Eight submissions, including one petition, strongly supported the renaming of Batman Park and acknowledged the need for reconciliation with the Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community.
- Two submissions were not in favour of the name change, as it was stated in the submissions that the Batman name was a part of history and that this history should not be rewritten.
- Three submissions were not considered valid; with one submission having been received after the consultation period had closed, and two more not having provided their addresses as specified in the public notice. Notwithstanding this, all three submissions supported the name change.

All submissions have been circulated separately to Council.

4.2 Batman Park Naming Committee

Following the conclusion of the statutory process, the Naming Committee reviewed each of the submissions received at its meeting on 26 September 2017. The Naming Committee includes the Mayor, Councillors and officers along with representatives from the Wurundjeri Council, Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee and La Trobe University's history unit.

The Naming Committee noted that a majority of the submissions received agreed or supported the renaming of the park and discussed how former park names continue to be registered in VICNAMES as the historical name so a connection to the historic name of the park would remain.

The Naming Committee, having regarded the Act, the Rules and Council's Policy, and after considering all submissions, unanimously agreed to recommend to Council that the official name of Batman Park be changed to Gumbri Park. They further recommended that any signage relating to the name provide the phonetic translation to ensure correct pronunciation, and a historical storyboard that reflects the history of the land, be developed in conjunction with the Wurundjeri Council and a qualified historian to be placed within the park.

5. Lodging Naming Proposal & Registration

Should Council resolve to endorse the recommendation made by the Naming Committee, the naming proposal will be lodged with the Office of Geographic Names (OGN).

The Registrar of Geographic Names (Registrar) will undertake all necessary reviews to ensure compliance with the Act and the Rules. Given Council has received objections during the statutory process, the proposal will not be considered until 30 days have elapsed after Council's resolution and notification to submitters. This 30 day period provides those submissions which raised objection to the proposal with the opportunity to lodge an appeal to the OGN. If there are no appeals received, the Registrar will proceed with considering the proposal. If there is an appeal it will only be reviewed by the Registrar if the objector can demonstrate that either:

- that Council in its capacity as naming authority, did not consider the objections during its deliberations; and
- the proposal does not reasonably conform to the principles and statutory requirements of the naming rules.

Copies of the objections have been separately circulated to Councillors and it is expected that Councillors will read these objections and take them into consideration when making any resolution in relation to proceeding with the proposed renaming. The naming proposal is considered to conform to the principles and statutory requirements of the naming rules.

If the proposal is accepted, a gazettal notice will be published in the Victoria Government Gazette. The notice will act as the official notification that the name will be registered in VICNAMES.

The Registrar will inform Council, in its capacity as the local naming authority, that the official name has been registered in VICNAMES. All signage must then be erected within 30 days of being notified from the OGN. It is only after Council has been notified by the OGN that it can officially commence using the registered name. A flowchart showing the process is provided in **Appendix D**.

6. Implementation of Name Change

In 2015, Council endorsed the Batman Park masterplan. The masterplan was developed in conjunction with the community and provided for the upgrade of the entrance at the corner of St George's Road and Arthurton Road. Whilst work has commenced on the implementation of the masterplan, the entrance upgrade work has been delayed pending the outcome of the renaming proposal. Once the renaming process has been finalised, Council will commence work on the entrance upgrade which may incorporate the name of the park and the phonetic translation (if required). This would be consistent with the recommendation provided by the Naming Committee.

It is also a recommendation of the Naming Committee that a historical storyboard be developed in conjunction with the Wurundjeri Council and a qualified historian and placed in the park. This is to reflect on the history of the land and the process that Darebin City Council took, along with the Wurundjeri Council to rename the park and acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land.

Should the name be registered, Council may wish to undertake a formal ceremony, inviting all stakeholders and the community to join them in celebrating the change.

Options for Consideration

Option 1 – Abandon the Proposal or Do Nothing

Council could resolve to abandon the proposal, take no action or may make no resolution on the matter. This option would mean that the status quo would continue and the park would continue to be known as Batman Park. Failing to progress the proposal may be seen as a contradiction of Council's stated objectives in the new Council plan with regard to reconciliation.

Council may, at some time in the future, resolve to recommence the statutory process in the future.

Option 2 – Endorse the renaming of Batman Park to Gumbri Park (Recommended)

Council could resolve to endorse the proposed renaming of Batman Park to Gumbri Park and lodge the proposal with the OGN. This would be consistent with the overall consensus shown by the community and the stakeholders in both the community consultation process and the statutory process. It would also demonstrate Council's commitment to reconciliation and acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land for which Darebin stands today.

Financial and Resource Implications

All costs associated with the naming process have been managed within the current property management budget.

Risk Management

Risks associated with each option are covered under the analysis of each option.

Policy Implications

Economic Development

There are no factors in this report which impact upon economic development.

Environmental Sustainability

There are no factors in this report which impact upon environmental sustainability.

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

Comprehensive community consultation and engagement with the surrounding community and park users has been undertaken. The statutory procedures extended this to the whole community by giving public notice of the proposal and providing an opportunity for anyone to make a formal submission to Council regarding the proposal.

The report has been informed by:

- Darebin Council Plan 2013-2017
- Darebin Equity and Inclusion Policy 2012-2016
- Darebin Human Rights Action Plan 2012-2016

Other

There are no other impacts related to this report.

Future Actions

- Lodge naming proposal with the Office of Geographic Names.
- Subject to outcome of the application with the OGN, officers to implement a consultation process for redesign of the signage that captures the park legacy, raises awareness of Gumbri and reflects the finding of earlier consultation through a collaborative artist lead design process managed through Public Realm.
- Officers to continue to engage and keep informed the Wurundjeri Council and the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee.

Consultation and Advocacy

- Council Departments
- Darebin residents, businesses and community
- Wurundjeri Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage Council Aboriginal Corporation
- Office of Geographic Names
- Emergency Service Organisations
- Service Authorities

Related Documents

- Darebin Council Plan 2013-2017
- Darebin Equity and Inclusion Policy 2012-2016
- Darebin Human Rights Action Plan 2012-2016
- Darebin Road and Place Naming Policy 2014
- Geographic Place Names Act 1998
- Local Government Act 1989
- Naming rules for places in Victoria Statutory requirements for naming roads, features and localities – 2016
- Council Minutes 19 July 2017

Attachments

- Aerial Plan of Batman Park (Appendix A) J
- Batman Park Renaming 2016 Community Consultation Findings (Appendix B) &
- Statutory letter for Proposed Renaming of Batman Park to Gumbri Park (Appendix C)
 U
- Naming Application Process (Appendix D) J
- Submissions (Appendix E) Confidential enclosed under separate cover

Disclosure of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

City of Datebill



Batman Park Renaming:

Summary Report on Findings from Community Consultations

December 2016

Obj Ref A3885681

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The project model

In early 2016 Council formalised a project plan to start engaging with the local community and gauging the level of support for a change to the name of both Batman Park and federal electorate of Batman.

Wurundjeri Council & the project model

Council's initial thinking on the project model positioned the Wurundjeri Council (and specifically its Committee of Management) as the project authorisers and leaders, and Darebin Council as the project operationalisers. This reflected Council's desire to establish a respectful model which gave Traditional Owners the power to steer the project and make higher-level decisions. At this early stage, a presentation was made to the Wurunderji Council's Committee of Management on the proposed model. Wurundjeri Elder Ron Jones agreed to take a leading role in the community consultation. Ron also became the Wurundjeri Council's representative on the Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee.

Subsequent to the COM presentation the Wurundjeri Council indicated its unpreparedness to take the project lead and that its involvement would be premised only on Darebin Council taking the lead role – and that this be made clear in all public communications. Adjustments were made to the project model and to communications materials to reflect this change.

The other notable component of the project design was the creation of opportunities for a respectful dialogue – recognising that conversation and connection was key to understanding the rationale for the proposal (regardless of opinions on its merit) and that the whole community needed opportunities to connect and converse with one another through the project. Council had acknowledged in its initial resolution that this would be a reconciliation process and as such the journey of learning and connecting together would be critical. These opportunities to gather and engage were termed 'community conversations' in the project.

A feature of these community conversations was the involvement of Wurundjeri Elders to lead part of the conversation and share their perspectives, their knowledge and their ideas. It was recognised that opportunities for non-Aboriginal people to connect with Elders are few, and that Wurundjeri Elders were the best placed to explain why Batman's name on the park means to them – and equally, what a change might mean.

Steps in the Engagement Process

Initial communication

The project was introduced to the community through an article in Darebin Community News in June 2016. The article featured a photo and interview with Ron Jones which gave the chance for the community to view the proposal 'through his eyes' and also for Ron to give a first-hand account of what the current name, and also renaming, means to Wurundjeri people. Residents were invited to email through their feedback and/or register for more information. Sixteen responses were

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received to the DCN article via the email address diversity@darebin.vic.gov.au: nine supported the change, one respondent did not support and six respondents registered for the ebulletin. All were subsequently sent information about the online survey when it went live a few weeks later in July.

Generating Wurundjeri names

As noted earlier, Wurundjeri Council generated three new potential names for the park. These names: *Be Be Jern, Billebellary* and *Gumbri* are three significant Wurundjeri people. Initially these were to be the three names to be taken as options for community consideration and 'vote', the results of which would guide the final name selection.

However at the first community conversation it became apparent there were differences in the level of support for the name *Gumbri* from within the Wurundjeri Council itself. Uncle Ron Jones spoke publicly that he did not support Gumbri as a name for the park. This placed a question on whether *Gumbri* can be used, a matter which requires further discussion with the Wurundjeri Council's COM.

Additionally, while there was community support for these three names and respect for the Elders who proposed them, people also wanted to: propose their own names; wanted more time to discuss the proposed names; and/or wanted to discuss names which reflected reconciliation and the community's mutual aspirations for the future.

Community conversations

The project's community engagement featured four opportunities for residents to engage directly with Wurundjeri Elders. These were termed 'community conversations', and were promoted as an opportunity to "... connect personally with local Aboriginal history, culture and heritage and learn more about this part of Darebin before and after colonisation" (promotional flyer). Residents were also invited to share their connection with Batman Park and provide a response to the three names provided by Wurundjeri Council.

The community were also invited to email feedback directly to the project team and had an opportunity to register for regular ebulletin updates about the project over the coming months.

Opportunities to participate in the discussion were promoted via:

- News articles in the local papers Northcote & Preston Leader
- News article in Koori News
- Feature on Council's website in the 'Have Your Say' section from 1 July onwards including online survey
- Promotional boards located in three sites across Darebin including Batman Park
- 60 posters placed in trams along route 86 (High St) and route 11 (St Georges Rd) between 1 August - 25 August
- Rolling posters at Northcote Station (near Batman Park) between 1 August -25 August
- Invitation to register for regular ebulletin project updates

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Information sharing and data collection also occurred via:

- Surveys distributed to all households within a 500 metre radius of Batman Park
- Council's Darebin Aboriginal Advisory Committee
- Letter sent to Aboriginal agencies located in the City of Darebin inviting feedback
- Interviews/ vox pops conducted by 3KND Indigenous Radio at the first community conversation in Batman Park
- Media interviews with Darebin Mayor: TV Channel 9, 3AW radio & the Herald-Sun newspaper

Survey for data collection

A survey was designed to capture people's comments and feedback, their preference in relation to the three proposed Wurundjeri names and reasons for their choice, and finally some brief demographic data including age and postcode. The survey was completed at community conversations, could be completed online on Council's website and could be posted (free post) back to Council.

Education materials

Council created information boards and handouts for the community conversations which included the original Batman Treaty and its translation, the William Burrt painting and explanation for each of the three Wurundjeri names.

A key handout '*Fast Facts about Renaming Batman Park*' provided succinct, comprehensive information about the proposal and the process for community engagement, feedback and decision making.

Community conversations

Four community conversations were held in July to August 2017: two on-site in Batman Park (16 July & 21 August), one at nearby Northcote Town Hall (26 July) and the final in Northcote Plaza shopping centre (28 August). These provided a varied range of locations, dates and times to optimise their accessibility.

The first event at Northcote Park (16 July) included a Smoking Ceremony and Welcome to Country; around 120 people attended over the two hours of the event. This was a significant event and was effectively the 'launch' of the project. The third conversation was also held in the Park and attracted around 50 people.

The second event at Northcote Town Hall was in the evening and 25 people attended.

The final conversation was a table in the local shopping centre. This provided a final opportunity for the community to find out about the project, complete surveys and engage in a conversation with Elders.

The community conversations featured free-flowing conversations and exchanges between Elders and community. The conversations were transcribed to allow for some analysis.

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Findings

Quotes from community conversations

Topics covered in the discussions were very broad however some clear themes emerged through the process. The selected quotes below highlight and illustrate these themes:

About the need for the project/ the renaming:

Aunty Di: "Not many people know about the history of Batman, what happened. They want to know more, so this would support that."

Aunty Di: "I am very proud that people want to change the name ... it is a community effort. It shows you are proud to be on Wurundjeri country – and we are proud of that."

Community member: "It is a very symbolic (act) to change the name of the Park. But perhaps Council could also consider reparations in the form of the park as land being given back to Traditional Owners."

Aunty Di: "When I walk around Melbourne there is nothing saying there are First Nations – it is still not accepted. There is a long way to go with racism."

About the process:

Aunty Di: "Changing the name is an honour to us. It is a joint journey – we need to sit down together and go on the journey together."

Uncle Ron: "We want everyone to be part of the name."

Community member: "This process is an opportunity ... why not think outside the naming process. Could the process encompass something beyond that: a gesture or stepping stone towards people engaging with Indigenous culture and our shared history? A place people can go to."

Community member "I'm looking forward to more relationship building and talking. And don't just decide something because we have to have a decision quickly. The way that white culture and Aboriginal people do things is different, and time is one of them. We can rest in the discomfort of not resolving and being finalised, and go along the journey. It is our pleasure to be part of this."

Uncle Ron: "In Ballarat they forced an Aboriginal name. That's not right. It has to be a journey that we do together. Scaremongering is already happening as part of Treaty discussions."

About the names:

Community member: "Would it be good to have an umbrella word that also recognises genocide. Maybe 'Kulin Nations Unite' – so that all peoples of the Kulin nation can feel a part of and included in this."

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Community member: "I am interested in the words that tie us together as people... I really support finding something (a word) that can unify people, rather than having the weight of this on one person."

Uncle Ron: "Look at what children at local schools can come up with – then we can interpret that into the Wathaurong language."

Community member: "I have no preference for the names; I want to respect any choice you (Elders) make."

Community member: "I see this as a chance to get some healing in train – the relationships are something more important than the name – and an idea of the place which accommodates the hopes for the future."

Uncle Ron: "They are the ones that should be remembered and respected – the people in our past who have put in the hard yards, that have lead the way for us."

Community member: "One of the Darebin parks is named after my grandmother. As a descendant I know she would have loved (that) park to have an Aboriginal name."

About the value/significance of the renaming proposal:

Community member "It will have a ripple effect and inspire people to do more."

Community member: "As President of the (Batman Park) kindergarten, I would like to acknowledge that this is really important. I want to recognise that the staff from the Kinder are here because of its importance. We need to understand why these names have been chosen and when the decision is made, we need to embrace it."

Aunty Di: "We've lost a lot of land that was ceremonial to Wurundjeri. This is Wurunderji land but we are also inclusive of all others – the cleansing and smoking ceremony allows only good spirits and we meet as equals."

Uncle Ron: "Aboriginal people don't own the land, the land owns us. It would be better if the community respects the history and the land."

Community member: "I firmly support the changing of the name ... this would be a good way of deepening our knowledge about the person, as a way of learning more about Aboriginal history."

About Darebin's importance to Aboriginal people:

Uncle Ron: "People settled here from Cummeragunga Mission, where they'd been moved after Corranderk was closed down. This area is very significant. Preston is a major hub now for Aboriginal services and a special place for Aboriginal people. (It is) a prominent place, a prominent history."

About Elders and their priorities:

Aunty Di: "There are thirty-three Elders but only ten of us are well enough to go out and speak. We have a committee of management and they make decisions on behalf of all of us. We are really lucky that we do have an Elders council and that we are self-sufficient and we do look after family as a result of that."

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Aunty Di: "(Elders') priorities is making sure we are well enough to do business"

Aunty Di: "I say my blessings every day that I am over 50 and still alive. I thank my Creator for this. That's why we are working hard to help our kids because we die too young. In two generations – my grandmother died at 103, now people die in their 50s on average. So (instead) we have to teach our kids what to do when we die, rather than about how to live, have a house and so on"

About reconciliation:

Community member: "I know reconciliation is a challenge and we are all challenged by it. But I also do know that I am deeply sorry for our history and what we have done. I just want to pay my respects you (Elders)."

Uncle Ron: "The relationship between William Barak and Anne Bonne. This is a good story as a model for working together."

About what needs to happen next:

Aunty Di: "Council have come to us with the plan to change the name of the Park. They have to get the process right."

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Survey findings

Executive Summary

A total of 354 Surveys were completed from 16 July – 2 September 2016.

292 (83%) of all respondents live in the Darebin municipality.

Just over half (54%) of all respondents live in proximity to Batman Park (postcodes 3070, 3071, 3072).

Of the 354 surveys:

- 292 respondents (83%) supported a name change.
- 15 respondents (4%) had no particular preference for the name
- 47 respondents (13%) wanted the name to remain Batman Park

The largest number of all respondents (51%) preferred the name Gumbri.

49% of all respondents from Northcote (3070) preferred the name Gumbri.

53% of respondents closest to Batman Park (postcodes 3070, 3071, 3072) preferred at least one of the three proposed names.

There is a direct correlation between the distance from the Park and the level of positive feedback for a name change.

56% of respondents were between 25 and 44 years 47% of respondents from Preston preferred *Gumbri*, being the strongest correlation with regards to age and postcode.

71% of respondents made additional written comments.

When asked to identify what is important to them about Batman Park, 89% of respondents cited amenity in some form. 11% used this opportunity to make additional comments on the Park name.

Information about the respondents

Aboriginality

- 91 % of respondents identified as non-Aboriginal
- 8% identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

Age range

- Over half the respondents were aged between 25 and 44 years (55%)
- 15% were aged between 16 and 24 years
- The remaining 30% were aged from 45 years onwards

16 -19 years	4%

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20 -24 years	11%	
25 – 34 years	32%	
35 – 44 years	24%	
45 – 54 years	16%	
55 – 64 years	8%	
65-74 years	4%	
75 +Years	1%	

Place of residence

292 (83%) of all respondents live in the Darebin municipality. Just over half (54%) of all respondents live in proximity to Batman Park (postcodes 3070, 3071, 3072).

Northcote (3070)	117 respondents (32%)
Thornbury (3071)	48 respondents (13%)
Preston (3072)	68 respondents (19%)
Reservoir (3073)	36 respondents (10%)
Bundoora (3085)	6 respondents (2%)
Alphington (3078)	12 respondents (4%)
Other	71 respondents (20%)

Name selections

Of those supporting a name change,

- 180 respondents (51%) preferred the name Gumbri
- 72 respondents (20%) preferred the name Billibellary
- 40 respondents (11%) preferred the name Be Be Jern
- 47 respondents (13%) preferred to keep the current name
- 15 respondents (4%) indicated they had no preference

Preferred Name	Be Be Jern	Billibellary	Gumbri	Keep current name (Batman)	No Preference
Total Number and	40 11%	72 20%	180 51%	47 13%	15 4%
percentage					

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Gumbri

Reasons given for selecting Gumbri include:

- shorter/easier to say
- recognises a woman (acknowledging the paucity of women's names in public places, the association with the Kinder and caring responsibilities)
- connotes peace and harmony given its meaning 'white dove':

"Because of the proximity to the Kindergarten a woman's name is appropriate. The 'white dove' is also a peace symbol so has a cross cultural significance."

"I think it also be wonderful for the park to be named after a female Aboriginal Elder, as a symbol of equality and respect for all women."

".. let's have some gender balance in naming here in Darebin!"

Age	Northco te (3070)	Thornbury (3071)	Preston (3072)	Reservoir (3073)	Bundoora (3083)	Alphington (3078)	Other .
16 -19 years	6		3				
20 -24 years	4	2		4			
25 – 34 years	6	5		7			5
35 – 44 years	13	6	15	7		4	2
45 – 54 years	20	8	15			11	
55 – 64 years	3	6	7				4
65-74 years	5	3	7				3
75 +Years							

Respondents who chose Gumbri by age and postcode (N: 180)

Billibellary

Main reasons for choosing Billibellary are:

- · linked to the Treaty as he was present at the signing
- was a strong and wise cultural and tribal leader
- name sounds nice to say.

"A song maker, a local, an astute and diplomatic leader – all things we need to celebrate and build more of in our modern world."

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"Billebellary makes sense to me given the link to the Batman Treaty. Isn't so much of a step away from Batman Park, but with better intentions."

"A beautiful euphonious name - although five syllables may be hard at first."

Age	Northcote (3070)	Thornbury (3071)	Preston (3072)	Reservoir (3073)	Bundoora (3083)	Alphington (3078)	Other
16 -19 years		1		1			
20 -24 years	3						
25 – 34 years	5			5			
35 – 44 years	12			6			6
45 – 54 years			8				
55 – 64 years	1		3				8
65-74 years		3	7				
75 +Years	3						

Respondents who chose Billebellary by age and postcode (N: 72)

The main reasons for selecting Be Be Jern can be summarised as:

Wurundjeri people descend from him;

- easy to pronounce;
- was present at Batman signing.

"He is the ancestor to all current Wurundjeri."

"Because he should or would have been the custodian of this land."

Respondents who chose Be Be Jern by age and postcode (N: 40)

Age	Northcote (3070)	Thornbury (3071)	Preston (3072)	Reservoir (3073)	Bundoora (3083)	Alphington (3078)	Other
16 -19 years							
20 -24							

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[
years					
25 – 34 years	5				
35 – 44 years	6				
45 – 54 years		4	6		4
55 – 64 years	5				3
65-74 years	5				
75 +Years	3				

Other themes arising in the name selection

A significant number of survey respondents who supported the name change were ambivalent when it came to selecting one of the three names. Of these, some felt it more appropriate for Wurundjeri Elders to make the final name selection and indicated that they would be very happy with that decision, whatever it may be. Others were keen to make their own suggestion for a park name beyond the three proposed names.

Many respondents used the Comments section of the survey to express / explain / reiterate their support for the proposed renaming.

Comments about keeping the name Batman Park

Forty seven respondents (13%) chose 'keep the current name'. The reasons provided were wide-ranging and can be summarised as follows:

- change is not justified based on a judgement of Batman
- · current high level of recognition of the park would be risked
- · questioning what impact a name change would actually have
- waste of Council resources
- a case of 'political correctness'.

"Apart from spending unnecessarily, what does the changing the name of the park actually achieve?"

"Please keep the current name. It's a great park and a well-known place in the community."

"It would be better to focus energy on promoting equality and redress of Aboriginal community needs, rather than such a meaningless gesture."

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"Did John Batman rape, pillage and murder for the land or did he trade for it? I am lead to believe it was the latter so what was his crime and why do we need to disassociate with this part of Melbourne's history?"

"I think it is important to retain the name Batman as a reminder to ALL people of the early non-Aboriginal settlers of what we now recognise, call and enjoy as the City of Darebin. The solution, which would honour both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultures, would be to have a joint name for the park. For example it might be called Be Be Jern – Batman Park."

Input from John Batman's descendants

In mid-July Wendy Batman, a descendant of John Batman, contacted Council in relation to the proposed name change. She asked to be kept informed of the process and hoped to be more fully involved once she returned to Melbourne later in the year. She expressed her hope that the park maintains its current name, although she was sympathetic to the work of reconciliation.

Since this contact she received two project updates and she has not made further contact.

Age	Northcote (3070)	Thornbury (3071)	Preston (3072)	Reservoir (3073)	Bundoora (3083)	Alphington (3078)	Other
16 -19 years	6						
20 -24 years							
25 – 34 years							
35 – 44 years							
45 – 54 years	8						
55 – 64 years		5	6	8		4	
65-74 years	2					5	
75 +Years		3					

Respondents who chose to keep the current name (Batman) (N: 47)

Respondents who chose I have no preference.

Of those who indicated that they had no preference for the three proposed names,

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- 11 respondents were positive about the renaming and were happy with any of the names proposed
- 2 respondents were negative about any of the names
- 1 respondent suggested 'Wurundjeri Park'
- 1 respondent suggested 'Annie Boorat Park'

Respondents who indicated that they have no preference, by age and postcode (N:15)

Age	Northcote (3070)	Thornbury (3071)	Preston (3072)	Reservoir (3073)	Bundoora (3083)	Alphington (3078)	Other
16 -19 years							
20 -24 years		1					
25 – 34 years	3	1					
35 – 44 years	2	1		1			
45 – 54 years			1				2
55 – 64 years							1
65-74 years							2
75 +Years							

Responses in relation to question: What is important to you about Batman Park?

As part of the survey, people were asked to identify/nominate what is currently important to them about the Park – as part of building a record of what may need to be considered for protection into the future, regardless of other changes which may occur.

The responses were numerous and extremely wide ranging. Themes have been categorised as follows:

- Safe/inclusive/accessible
- Green space/garden/trees/green oasis
- Shared/community/gathering place/ communal
- Heat mitigation/ green lungs/climate change
- Children/kindergarten/playground/family
- Recreation
- Amenity / toilets /BBQ

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- Central
- Landmark/important/distinctive/iconic/visible
- Nature/natural/environment/ecosystem
- Beautiful
- Used by multiple generations of families

What is important about the park (N: 357)

Age	Total number of respondents	Number of respondents who made a written comment	Number of respondents who made a comment about the name
16 -19 years	13	5	1 pro renaming
20 -24 years	39	22	2 pro renaming
25 – 34 years	116	66	6pro renaming
			3 pro Batman
35 – 44 years	85	72	5 pro renaming 2 pro Batman
45 – 54 years	58	52	5 pro renaming 3 pro Batman
55 – 64 years	30	25	5 pro renaming 1 pro Batman
65-74 years	13	11	1 pro renaming
75 +Years	3	2	1 pro renaming

The Project E-list

Community members were invited to send their independent comments through to Council's mailbox <u>diversity@darebin.vic.gov.au</u> and also consider registration to the project E-list for regular progress updates. To date, four project updates have been sent to those registered – in July, August, September & October.

Given this feedback avenue was not anonymous and included the E-List invitation, it is not particularly surprising that the great majority of comments were supportive and very positive:

"Have just read the article in the Darebin community news 'What's In a Name? Batman in the Spotlight'. I think without a doubt change the name of Batman Park and I can't imagine why people in the community wouldn't support it. Our son attends the kindergarten there and we frequent the park. It's great to see the park being

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updated and now would be a perfect time for renaming and acknowledging the traditional owners. I have already corrected my 4 year old's notion that the park is named after Batman the superhero with something bland about John Batman being involved in the development of Melbourne; now I would like to give him and my older daughter and all of us the rightful narrative. Our family of 4 fully supports! Change the name now."

"I am non-Aboriginal. I have long thought the name of Batman Park was out dated in view of Darebin's inclusion of indigenous Australians in its policies and publications. I can only give the renaming of the park my complete support. I think many thinking residents and visitors to the area would feel more comfortable if the park was not connected by name to the man who swindled indigenous occupiers of the area was removed. Renaming the park to honour an indigenous man or woman might be some redress as well as a mark of respect to those ancestors who lost so much in their dealings with Batman. As an aside I have heard teens and young adults in conversation wondering why the park was named after Batman of the Marvel comic characters Batman & Robin."

There was one concern about possible next sites which could be chosen, and protection of another Park name of family significance:

"... I just wanted to touch base with you to enquire as to whether there have or will be discussions on changing the name of this park away from Caddayes Corner, as I believe the great work that Pa provided over many decades in the local area justify its retention. Can you please let me know on the state of play in regards to proposed name changes of parks, as we as a family would be devastated to know that Pa's legacy could be removed from the local area which he serviced so well for so many years."

Others were keen to acknowledge the significant timing of the renaming of Batman Park and to propose future sites for renaming:

"With NAIDOC week approaching I would like to revisit the historic achievements of the Northcote City Council, now amalgamated with Preston as the Darebin Council. When I was a member of the Northcote Council in the late 70's and early 80's we did two things that will resonate with the Darebin Council of today: We transferred the title of what was then known as the Watt Street land to the Aborigines Advancement League. The League is now the de-facto headquarters of the Victorian Aboriginal community and a central resource for the Wurundjeri people from whom Batman took the land which is now the Darebin municipality. Council of the time believed that the land transfer was part restitution for the loss of the land of the Wurundjeri people. Council also attempted to rename Batman Park, Wurundjeri Park. There was considerable hostility to the resolution as a search of the local media of the time will reveal. Council was reluctant to force the initiative onto the residents and withdrew. The City of Darebin is now a much different place to the City of Northcote, with the League a central feature of the city. I believe now is the time after almost 35 years to rename Batman Park. To honour the original residents of the City of Darebin I believe it should finally be renamed Wurundjeri Park. Further I believe that the beautiful R J Bramham Gardens at the entrance to Preston should be renamed Australia's first "Treaty Park".

Engagement via Social Media

The four conversations and the links to the survey via Your Say on Council's website were promoted on Council's social media channels. The hash tag #batmanrename

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was created to facilitate and follow tweets on the topic. Posts and tweets were received – less than 40 on total. The Facebook posts were shared (9) and liked (47). Comments were a mix of negative and supportive. Three illustrative quotes:

"More lunacy from the People's Republic of Darebin. Ho hum." (10/8) "Leave things alone!" (11/8)

"Of course I'm happy to follow the lead of the elders on this one but I'd love to see Douglas Nicholls honoured in Northcote in more than one place. Played footy for Northcote and went on to become one of the greatest Australians, and a proud indigenous person."

Whether these comments are from local residents is not possible to determine.

Additional information beyond the Survey and Community Conversations: what was learned?

- Many contributions reflected an understanding and appreciation of the link between the name change, its symbolism and how the change can also raise awareness and understanding of (currently largely invisible) Aboriginal history of Darebin.
- All four community conversations found their own free flowing rhythm, and were characterised by respectful listening and dialogue. Very little moderation was needed. Contributions from the community were genuine, heartfelt and very emotional at times.
- Community members came to the conversations with a sense of gravitas in wanting to articulate their deep respect to the Wurundjeri Elders present. The survey responses support this.
- The conversations included a level of truth-telling, emotion and witnessing. At times they had the quality of a reconciliation process happening concurrently to the discussion.
- The Wurundjeri Elders expressed some ambivalence the meaning and value of the renaming to them, in that they shared their belief that the notion of 'we don't own land, we belong to the land – it owns us'. The renaming the Park to somehow indicate their possession or ownership of the park has no cultural resonance for them. However they understood the renaming to be an expression of respect and an acknowledgement of their history and living culture.
- Traditional Owner groups and Wurundjeri Elders in particular, are under significant pressure. Extremely heavy responsibilities are carried by only a few Elders at enormous personal costs. They are still asked to give and do give their unpaid time and energy in advising governments and public authorities.

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Overview of findings

The community engagement undertaken in this project has generated evidence that:

- The community living around Batman Park support and are ready for a name change in the spirit of reconciliation.
- The community living around Batman Park is interested in and ready to be part of other significant actions which support reconciliation and acknowledgement of Traditional Owners.
- There is an appetite across the municipality for actions which support reconciliation and acknowledgement of Traditional Owners.
- The community wants to learn more about and engage more fully with the history, culture and heritage of Aboriginal Darebin but aren't sure where to go, or can't locate a place to where it is readily available.
- Having Elders lead the discussions was powerful and significant in many ways – to the community who attended and to the Elders themselves. Community members were keen to honour and defer to Elders, while Elders were genuinely surprised and delighted by the response they received.

There is also evidence of some concern that:

- The true history of the Park is not erased by the renaming ('it's our shared history') and that Batman's name and legacy are captured and memorialised in some way within the Park – and that this may also be an important consideration when selecting other potential sites for renaming.
- Selection of a person's name always risks controversy, whereas a more generic word which reflects the community's vision or aspiration for a more harmonious and reconciled society may be less so and have other benefits.
- Any actions include consideration of how Darebin Council can provide financial compensation or benefit for Wurundjeri.

Obj Ref A3885681

24 July 2017

In reply please quote reference: fA333124

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL RESIDENTS

Re: Statutory Process for Proposed Renaming of Batman Park to Gumbri Park

In the spirit of reconciliation with the Darebin Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, Council is seeking to rename Batman Park to better recognise and reflect the Wurundjeri history of the local area. The Wurundjeri Tribe are the Traditional Owners of the land on which Darebin stands today.

Between July-September last year Council consulted the community with support from Wurundjeri Elders, to learn more about local Wurundjeri history and culture and to hear the community's feedback on the proposed renaming of Batman Park.

Hundreds of residents attended the consultations and provided support for renaming the park. Three names were put forward by the Wurundjeri Council for community consideration. There was overwhelming community support for the name Gumbri, which has now been endorsed by both Darebin Council and Wurundjeri Tribal Land and Compensation Cultural Heritage Council.

Who was Gumbri?

Gumbri, also known as Jessie Hunter, was a much loved and respected Wurundjeri Elder. Her name means 'white dove' in Woi wurrung, the traditional language of the Wurundjeri people. She was the last girl born on the Coranderrk Aboriginal Reserve in Healesville and she had a great passion for Wurundjeri people and Country with a special interest in bush foods and medicines.

Statutory process

Council is required to undergo a statutory process before a public place can be renamed in accordance with the *Geographical Place Name Act 1998* and *Section 223* of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

This process includes an opportunity for the local community to comment on the proposal. Council will consider all submissions prior to deciding on lodging the proposal with the Registrar of Geographic Names.

Further information on the requirements of the submission process is available at: http://www.dtpli.vic.gov.au/property-and-land-titles/naming-places-features-androads/naming-rules-for-places-in-victoria

How do I comment?

Darebin City Council is seeking your comments on the proposal to rename Batman Park to Gumbri Park. Submit your comments, together with your name and address, by 24 August 2017 via:

Post: Darebin City Council, PO Box 91 Preston, Vic 3072 Email: mailbox@darebin.vic.gov.au



the place to live

Darebin City Counc ABN 75 815 980 522 Postal Address PO Box 91 Preston VIC 3072

Preston VIC 3072 T 03 8470 8888 darebin.vic.gov.au National Relay

Service TTY dial 133 677 or Speak & Listen 1300 555 727 or iprelay.com.au then enter 03 8470 8888

Speak your language T 03 8470 8470 此 見 史 記 和 Viká 信 估 Italiano Македонски Soomalii Tiếng Việt To find out more about the Batman Park Rename community consultation in 2016, go to darebin.vic.gov.au/batmanrename.

Gity of DAREBIN

FIGURE 1: GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION OF BATMAN PARK (152 – 154 St Georges Road, Northcote)



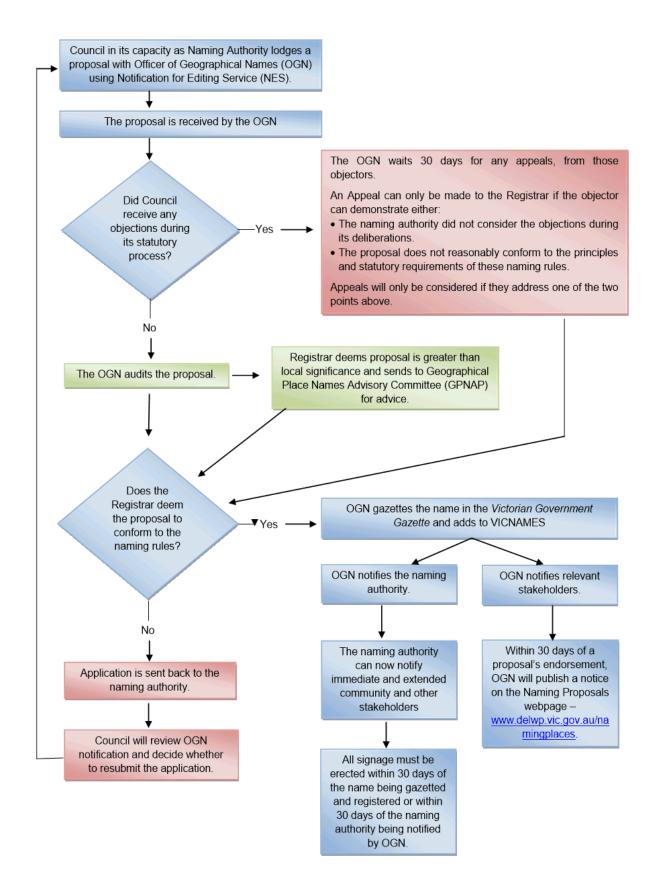
Darebin City Counc ABN 75 815 980 522

Postal Address PO Box 91 Preston VIC 3072 T 03 8470 8888 darebin.vic.gov.au

National Relay Service TTY dial 133 677 or Speak & Listen 1300 555 727 or iprelay.com.au then enter 03 8470 8888

Speak your language T 03 8470 8470 العربية 繁體中文 Eλληνικά ҟदी Italiano Mакедонски Soomalii Tiếng Việt

Naming Application Process



8.3 PROPOSED ROAD DISCONTINUANCE REAR OF 9 JUNCTION STREET AND 270 RAGLAN STREET, PRESTON

Author: Property Manager

Reviewed By: Director Operations and Environment

Report Background

This report provides Council with information regarding the outcome of statutory procedures relating to the proposed discontinuance and sale of part of the right-of-way at the rear of 9 Junction Street and 270 Raglan Street, Preston, shown hatched on the Site Plan in **Appendix A** and the Statutory Plan in **Appendix B** (Road), and recommends the Road be discontinued and sold.

Previous Council Resolution

At its ordinary meeting held on 17 July 2017 Council resolved to:

- (1) Commence the statutory procedures under section 206 and clause 3 of Schedule 10 to the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act") to discontinue the road adjoining 9 Junction Street and 270 Raglan Street, Preston shown hatched on Appendix C.
- (2) Give public notice under sections 207A and 82A and 223 of the Act of the proposed discontinuance in the appropriate newspapers and on Council's website and such notice state that if discontinued, Council proposes to sell the land from the road to the adjoining property owners by private treaty and transfer to itself any land from the road not sold to the adjoining property owners.'

Previous Briefing(s)

Councillor Briefing – 9 November 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 - A well governed Council

Summary

This report provides the history and background for the right-of-way between 9 Junction Street and 270 Raglan Street, Preston, shown hatched on the site plan in **Appendix A** and in the aerial photo in **Appendix C**, as well as the outcome of the statutory procedures into its proposed discontinuance.

In 2016, an application was received from the owner of 9 Junction Street (who are in occupation of the land) requesting the discontinuance and sale of the Road. Initial investigations identified that the Road, which is contained within Certificate of Title Volume 2377 Folio 303, to be occupied and whilst not listed in Council's Register of Public Roads, remains a road on title.

At its ordinary meeting of 17 July 2017, Council resolved to commence the statutory procedures and give public notice of the proposed discontinuance and sale of the Road. Public notice of the proposal was given in the Preston Leader and Northcote Leader newspapers on 8 and 9 August 2017, respectively. Notification was also given on Council's website. The notice period ended on 8 September 2017, with no submissions received.

This report recommends that following the completion of the statutory procedures for the proposed discontinuance and sale of the section of Road and having received no submissions, that the Road be discontinued and sold by private treaty in accordance with Council Policy and transfer any land not sold to itself.

Recommendation

That Council:

Having given public notice of a proposal to discontinue the road adjoining 9 Junction Street and 270 Raglan Street, Preston, shown hatched on **Appendix B** to this report, and having received no submissions in respect of this proposal under section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*:

- (1) Discontinues the road in accordance with section 206 and schedule 10, Clause 3 to the *Local Government Act 1989*;
- (2) Directs that a notice be published in the Victoria Government Gazette;
- (3) Directs that the land from the road be sold by private treaty to the owners of the adjoining properties in accordance with Council policy and signed 'in principle agreements' and transfer to itself any land from the road not sold to the adjoining property owners;
- (4) Signs and seals all documents relating to the sale of any land from the discontinued road to the owners of the adjoining properties; and
- (5) Delegates power to the Chief Executive Officer to do all other acts to enable any land from the Road not sold to the adjoining property owners to be transferred to Council.

Introduction

In 2016, Council received an application from the owner of 9 Junction Street, Preston for the discontinuance and sale of the right-of-way/road at the rear of their property - shown hatched on the Site Plan in **Appendix A** and on the aerial photo in **Appendix C** (Road).

The Road, which is currently occupied by 9 Junction Street, is not listed on Council's Register of Public Road, is not constructed or used for access.

Once the initial investigations confirmed the feasibility of discontinuing and selling the Road, Macquarie Lawyers were commissioned to undertake the statutory procedures to facilitate the possible discontinuance and sale of the Road.

Issues and Discussion

Statutory Procedures

Public notice of the proposed Road discontinuance and sale was given in the Preston Leader and Northcote Leader newspapers on 8 and 9 August 2017, respectively. Notification was also given on Council's website.

Owners and occupiers of the adjoining properties were notified in writing and were advised that written submissions would be considered by Council as per the provisions of section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Internal departments and service authorities were consulted regarding the proposal and, whilst no objections were received, Council's Engineering department advised that an easement would be required to provide for existing assets within the land. Yarra Valley Water advised that it does not require an easement over the land.

The notice period ended on 8 September 2017. No submissions were received.

Land Allocation

All of the immediate adjoining owners have been consulted regarding the proposal.

The dimensions and proposed allocation/division of the land from the Road are shown in the Title Plan TP958340T in **Appendix D**.

The owners of 9 Junction Street, Preston (who are also in occupation of the land), have entered into an 'in principle agreement' confirming their interest in acquiring the land at current market value as well as meeting their share of the reasonable costs associated with Council discontinuing the Road. Following discontinuance, it is proposed that Council would take title to any land from the Road that remains unsold.

Options for Consideration

Option 1 – Abandon the Proposal or Do Nothing

Council could resolve to abandon the proposal, take no action or may make no resolution on the matter. This option would mean that the Road would continue to vest in Council and the status quo would remain with the adjoining property owners continuing to occupy and use parts of the Road.

Council may be perceived as knowingly encouraging and enabling property owners to continue to occupy other roads or rights-of-way within Darebin to the detriment of the community (whether financially or as a benefiting right). Additionally Council may lose future rights to the Road if adjoining property owners are able to accrue possessory rights.

Council may, at some time in the future, resolve to recommence the discontinuance process.

Option 2 – Discontinue and sell the Road (Recommended)

Council could proceed with the discontinuance and sale of the land from the Road in accordance with the signed 'in principle' purchase agreement. This would be consistent with the statutory procedures which have been completed with no submissions received. Further it would formalise the occupation of the Road by the adjoining property owners.

Financial and Resource Implications

At the commencement of the negotiations with the property owners, the City Valuer placed a rate per square metre for the land of \$616.00/m² (including GST) for the land adjoining the rear of 9 Junction Street. This rate takes into account the Road's relationship to the purchaser and the fact that the land would be encumbered with easements in favour of Council.

Given the area of 34m² for the land to be sold to 9 Junction Street the market value for the land to be sold has been assessed at \$20,994.00 including GST. Costs associated with the statutory procedures and sale of the Road would be recovered from the purchasers. Any costs associated with Council transferring any unsold land to itself would be managed within existing annual budget allocations.

Should Council decide not to proceed with either the discontinuance or the sale, then the costs associated with conducting the process would be funded from existing budget allocations.

The land from the Road, once sold, would attract additional Council rates.

Risk Management

Risks associated with each option are covered under the analysis of each option.

Policy Implications

Economic Development

There are no factors in this report which impact upon economic development.

Environmental Sustainability

There are no factors in this report which factor on environmental sustainability.

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

Consultation with the immediate adjoining owners has been undertaken. The statutory procedures have extended this to the whole community by giving public notice of the proposal and providing the opportunity to anyone to make a formal submission to Council regarding the proposal.

Other

This report has been prepared having regard to Council's Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy.

Future Actions

- Arrange for a notice to be published in the Victoria Government Gazette.
- Arrange for the land to be sold and transferred to the owners of the adjoining property by private treaty in accordance with Council policy.
- Arrange for any land not sold to be transferred into Council's ownership (if required).

Consultation and Advocacy

- Council departments
- Darebin community
- Macquarie Local Government Lawyers
- Owners and occupiers of the adjoining properties
- Statutory authorities

Related Documents

- Local Government Act 1989
- Road Management Act 2004
- Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy, Darebin City Council, 2015

• Council Minutes – 17 July 2017

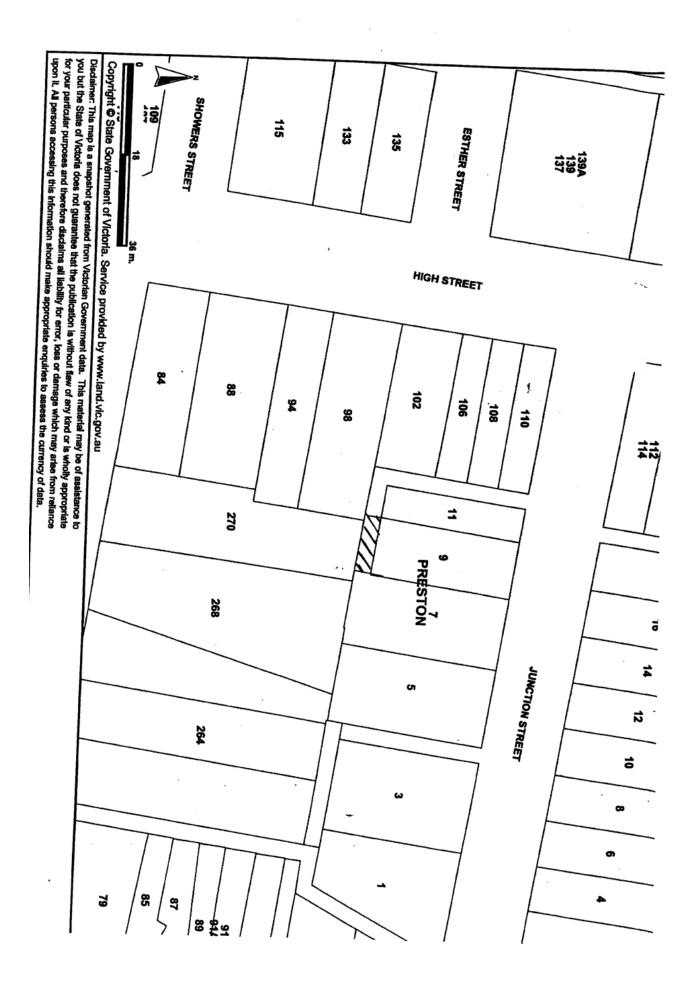
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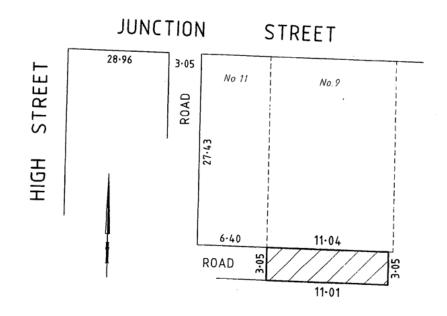
- Site Plan (Appendix A) <u>J</u>
- Statutory Plan (Appendix B) 4
- Aerial Photo (Appendix C) <u>J</u>
- Title Plan TP958340T (Appendix D) 😃

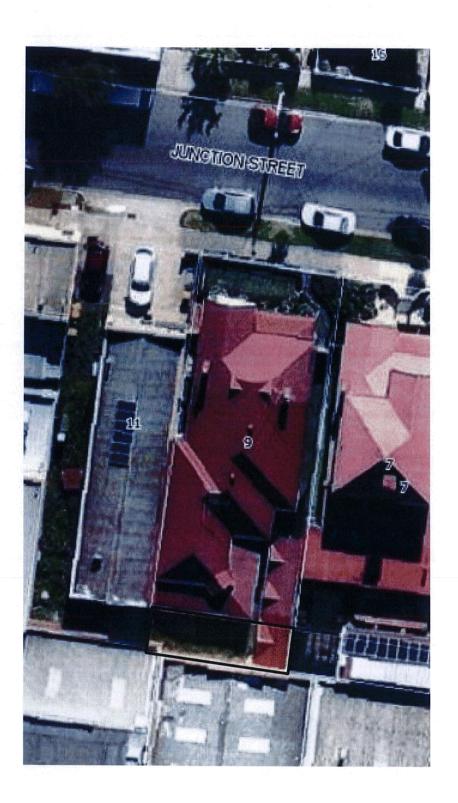
Disclosure of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.







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8.4	PROPOSED ROAD DISCONTINUANCE ADJOINING 203 EDWARDES STREET AND 44 SPRATLING STREET, RESERVOIR
Author:	Manager Strategic Assets Management
Reviewed By:	Director Operations and Environment

Report Background

This report provides Council with information regarding the outcome of statutory procedures relating to the proposed discontinuance and sale of part of the road reserve on the south–east corner of the intersection of Edwardes Street and Spratling Street, Reservoir, shown hatched on the Site Plan in **Appendix A** and the Statutory Plan in **Appendix B** (Road), and recommends the Road be discontinued and sold.

Previous Council Resolution

At its ordinary meeting held on 17 July 2017 Council resolved to:

- (1) Commence the statutory procedures under section 206 and clause 3 of Schedule 10 to the Local Government Act 1989 ("the Act") to discontinue part of the road reserve on the south–east corner of Edwardes Street and Spratling Street, Reservoir adjoining 203 Edwardes Street and 44 Spratling Street, shown hatched on Appendix B.
- (2) Give public notice under sections 207A and 82A and 223 of the Act of the proposed discontinuance in the appropriate newspapers and on Council's website and such notice state that if discontinued, Council proposes to sell the land from the road reserve to the adjoining property owner 203 Edwardes Street and 44 Spratling Street, Reservoir by private treaty or transfer to itself any land from the discontinued road if not sold to the adjoining property owner.'

Previous Briefing(s)

Councillor Briefing – 9 November 2017

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 - A well governed Council

Summary

This report provides the history and background relating to part of the road reserve on the south–east corner of the intersection of Edwardes and Spratling Streets, Reservoir, adjoining 203 Edwardes Street and 44 Spratling Street, shown hatched on the site plan in **Appendix A** and in the aerial photo in **Appendix C**, as well as the outcome of the statutory procedures into its proposed discontinuance.

In 2015, Council received an enquiry from the owner of 203 Edwardes Street and 44 Spratling Street Reservoir requesting the discontinuance and sale of the section of Road. Initial investigations identified that the Road, which is contained within Certificate of Title Volume 08489 Folio 496, is listed on Council's Register of Public Roads and remains a 'road' on title but is not used for vehicular or pedestrian passage. In recent years it has been used, with the appropriate Council permits, as part of the alfresco dining area at the front of the applicant's property known as 'Off the Boat Pizzeria'.

At its ordinary meeting of 17 July 2017, Council resolved to commence the statutory procedures and give public notice of the proposed discontinuance and sale of the Road. Public notice of the proposal was given in Preston Leader and Northcote Leader newspapers on 8 and 9 August 2017, respectively. Notification was also given on Council's website. The notice period ended on 8 September 2017, with no submissions received.

This report recommends that following the completion of the statutory procedures for the proposed discontinuance and sale of the section of Road and after having received no submissions, the Road be discontinued and sold by private treaty in accordance with Council Policy and that any land remaining from the discontinuance which is not sold, be transferred into Council's name.

Recommendation

That Council:

Having given public notice of a proposal to discontinue the road adjoining 203 Edwardes Street and 44 Spratling Street, Reservoir, shown hatched on **Appendix B** to this report, and having received no submissions in respect of this proposal under section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*:

- (1) Has formed the opinion that, in accordance with section 17(4) of the *Road Management Act 2004*, the portion of public road, shown hatched in **Appendix B** to this report, is no longer reasonably required for general public use as the portion of road:
 - a) is excess to the standard dimensions of a road reserve, and
 - b) contributes no value to the local transport network

and that the portion of road shown hatched in **Appendix B** be removed from Council's Register of Public Roads.

- (2) Discontinues the road in accordance with section 206 and schedule 10, Clause 3 to the *Local Government Act 1989*;
- (3) Directs that a notice be published in the Victoria Government Gazette;
- (4) Directs that the land from the road be sold by private treaty to the owners of the adjoining property in accordance with Council policy and signed 'in principle agreements' and transfer to itself any land from the road not sold to the adjoining property owners;
- (5) Signs and seals all documents relating to the sale of any land from the discontinued road to the owners of the adjoining properties; and
- (6) Delegates power to the Chief Executive Officer to do all other acts to enable any land from the Road not sold to the adjoining property owners to be transferred to Council.

Introduction

In 2016, Council received an application from the owner of 203 Edwardes Street and 44 Spratling Street, Reservoir requesting for the discontinuance and sale of the section of road reserve on the south–east corner of the intersection of Edwardes Street and Spratling Street, Reservoir, shown hatched on the plan in **Appendix A** and coloured yellow on the aerial photo in **Appendix C** (Road).

Although the Road is contained within Council's Register of Public Roads and remains a 'road' on title, it is not used for vehicular or pedestrian passage. In recent years it has been used, with the appropriate Council permits, as part of the alfresco dining area at the front of the applicant's property known as 'Off the Boat Pizzeria'.

Once initial investigations confirmed the feasibility of the proposed discontinuance, Macquarie Lawyers were commissioned to undertake further consultation with a view to Council commencing the statutory procedures to facilitate the possible discontinuance and sale of the section of Road.

Issues and Discussion

Statutory Consultation Procedures

Public notice of the proposed Road discontinuance and sale was given in the Preston Leader and Northcote Leader newspapers on 8 and 9 August 2017, respectively. Notification was also given on Council's website.

All immediate adjoining owners, occupiers and the owners corporation were notified in writing and were advised that written submissions would be considered by Council as per the provisions of section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Internal departments and the Service Authorities were consulted regarding the proposal and no objections were received. Yarra Valley Water and Council Engineering have advised that no easements would be required, if this section of road were to be discontinued. Council's Transport Management Unit has advised, from a traffic engineering perspective, there appears to be no use for this section of road.

The notice period ended on 8 September 2017. No submissions were received.

Deregistration of the Public Road Status

As this portion of road shown hatched in **Appendix B** is included in the listing for *Spratling Street, Reservoir from Henty to Edward* in Council's Register of Public Roads, it would need to be deregistered by Council prior to finalising discontinuance of its status as a road. A Public Road under the *Road Management Act 2004* is a different status to that of a 'road' under the *Local Government Act 1989* and a different process needs to be undertaken to deregister a public road.

As noted in the previous section, the consultation undertaken as part of the statutory process for the proposed discontinuance had not elicited any responses from the general public with regard to the proposed removal of the 'road' status of the land via the Local Government Act. The *Road Management Act* does not require a separate or specific consultation process be undertaken, only that a decision be made that the road is no longer reasonably required for public use.

The portion of road has been licensed to the Off the Boat Pizzeria for several years for use as an outdoor dining area and has generally not been openly trafficable by the general public. No complaints had been received about this use of this portion of the road during this period.

The portion of road lies outside the standard dimensions of the road reserve for the remainder of Spratling Street and the road reserve for Edwardes Street. The footpaths on the eastern side of Spratling Street and the southern side of Edwardes Street abut the western and northern boundaries of the land. Movement of pedestrians would not be affected by deregistration of this road from the Register of Public Roads.

It appears that the portion of road may have been part of a large splay for turning movements from Edwardes Street into Spratling Street or possibly placed to provide more direct alignment of north/south traffic movements between Spratling Street and Griffiths Street. The median on Edwards Street, immediately north of Spratling Street, serves to prevent north-bound traffic between Spratling and Griffiths Streets and severely restricts southbound movements between the two streets. It is not expected that traffic movements between Spratling/Griffiths would require prioritisation, so the splay set aside in the road reserve is not required. Movement of vehicles would not be affected by deregistration of this road from the Register of Public Roads.

Land Allocation

All of the immediate adjoining owners have been consulted regarding the proposal.

The dimensions and proposed allocation/division of the land from the Road are shown in the Title Plan TP958340T in **Appendix D**.

The owners of 203 Edwardes Street and 44 Spratling Street, Reservoir have entered into an 'ïn principle agreement' confirming their interest in acquiring the land at current market value as well as meeting their share of the reasonable costs associated with Council discontinuing the Road. Following discontinuance, it is proposed that Council would take title to any land from the Road that remains unsold.

Options for Consideration

Option 1 – Abandon the Proposal or Do Nothing

Council could resolve to abandon the proposal, take no action or may make no resolution on the matter. This option would mean that the Road would continue to vest in Council and the status quo would remain with the adjoining property owners continuing to occupy and use parts of the Road.

Council may be perceived as knowingly encouraging and enabling property owners to continue to occupy other roads or rights-of-way within Darebin to the detriment of the community (whether financially or as a benefiting right). Additionally Council may lose future rights to the Road if adjoining property owners are able to accrue possessory rights.

Council may, at some time in the future, resolve to recommence the discontinuance process.

Option 2 – Discontinue and sell the Road (Recommended)

Council could proceed with the discontinuance and sale of the land from the Road in accordance with the signed 'in principle' purchase agreement. This would be consistent with the statutory procedures which have been completed with no submissions received.

Financial and Resource Implications

At the commencement of the negotiations with the property owners, the City Valuer placed a rate per square metre for the land of \$935/m² (including GST) for the land adjoining 203 Edwardes Street and 44 Spratling Street, Reservoir. This rate takes into account the Road's relationship to the purchaser and the fact that the land would be encumbered with easements in favour of Council.

Given the area of 42m² for the land to be sold to 203 Edwardes Street and 44 Spratling Street, Reservoir the market value for the land to be sold has been assessed at \$39,270 including GST.

Costs associated with the statutory procedures and sale of the Road would be recovered from the purchasers. Any costs associated with Council transferring any unsold land to itself would be managed within existing annual budget allocations.

Should Council decide not to proceed with either the discontinuance or the sale, then the costs associated with conducting the process would be funded from existing budget allocations.

Risk Management

Risks associated with each option are covered under the analysis of each option.

Policy Implications

Economic Development

There are no factors in this report which impact upon economic development.

Environmental Sustainability

There are no factors in this report which factor on environmental sustainability.

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

Consultation with the immediate adjoining owners has been undertaken. The statutory procedures have extended this to the whole community by giving public notice of the proposal and providing the opportunity to anyone to make a formal submission to Council regarding the proposal.

Other

This report has been prepared having regard to Council's Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy.

Future Actions

- Arrange for a notice to be published in the Victoria Government Gazette.
- Arrange for the land to be sold and transferred to the owners of the adjoining property by private treaty in accordance with Council policy.
- Arrange for any land not sold to be transferred into Council's ownership (if required).

Consultation and Advocacy

- Council departments
- Darebin community
- Macquarie Local Government Lawyers
- Owners and occupiers of the adjoining properties
- Statutory authorities

Related Documents

- Local Government Act 1989
- Road Management Act 2004
- Sale of Minor Council Property Assets Policy, Darebin City Council, 2015
- Council Minutes 17 July 2017

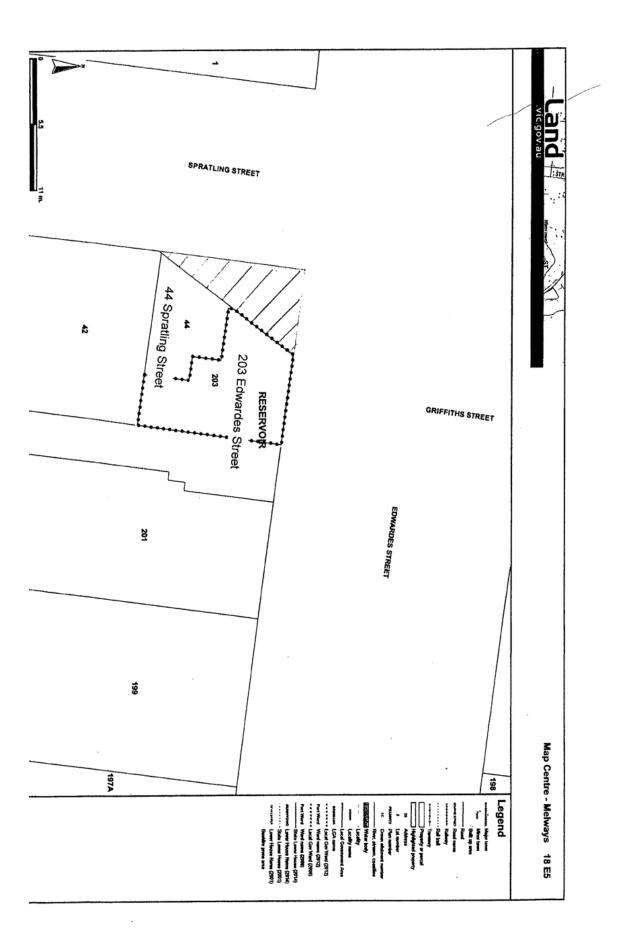
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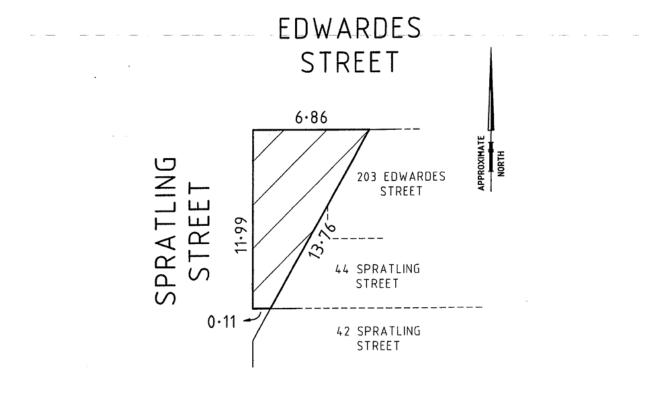
- Site Plan (Appendix A) <u>4</u>
- Statutory Plan (Appendix B) <u>J</u>
- Aerial Photo (Appendix C) <u>J</u>
- Tital Plan TP958346 (Appendix D) 😃

Disclosure of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.







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8.5 AMENDMENTS TO COUNCIL AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR 2018

Author: Council Business and Governance Officer

Reviewed By: Director Civic Governance and Compliance

Report Background

At the Statutory Meeting of Council held on 13 November 2017, Council resolved to establish a schedule of meetings for the Council, Planning Committee, Hearing of Submissions Committee and the Bundoora Homestead Board of Management for the 2017/2018 Council year.

Previous Council Resolution

At its meeting held on 13 November 2017, Council resolved:

'That:

- Ordinary meetings of the Council be held in the Council Chamber at Darebin Civic Centre (or other venue as determined) at 6.00 pm on 20 November, 4 December, 18 December 2017, 5 February, 26 February, 19 March, 9 April, 30 April, 21 May, 12 June, 2 July, 23 July, 13 August, 3 September, 24 September, 15 October and 5 November 2018.
- (2) A special (statutory) meeting of the Council be held at the Preston City Hall at 6.30 pm on Monday 26 November 2018.
- (3) Meetings of the Planning Committee be held in the Council Chamber at Darebin Civic Centre at 6.00 pm on 11 December 2017, 12 February, 13 March, 16 April, 14 May, 18 June, 16 July, 20 August, 17 September, and 22 October 2018.

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Previous Briefing(s)

This matter has not previously been to a Councillor Briefing.

Council Plan Goal/Endorsed Strategy

Goal 6 - A well governed Council

Summary

This report recommends rescheduling the 5 November 2018 Council meeting to 7 November 2018.

Further, as a result of the change of date to the 2018 Special (Statutory) meeting, now to be held on 26 November 2018, this report also seeks Council endorsement to schedule a Planning Committee meeting on 19 November 2018.

Recommendation

That Council:

- (1) Resolves to reschedule the Council meeting on Monday 5 November 2018 to Wednesday 7 November 2018 at 6.00pm, in the Council Chamber at Darebin Civic Centre.
- (2) Resolves to schedule an additional Planning Committee meeting, to be held in the Council Chamber at Darebin Civic Centre at 6.00pm on 19 November 2018.

Introduction

At the Statutory Meeting of Council held on 13 November 2017, Council resolved to establish a schedule of meetings for the Council, Planning Committee, Hearing of Submissions Committee and the Bundoora Homestead Board of Management for the 2017/2018 Council year.

Issues and Discussion

Rescheduling the Council meeting date from 5 November 2018 to 7 November 2018 provides a better opportunity for the public and staff to be available in light of the public holiday for Melbourne Cup Day on Tuesday 6 November.

A Planning Committee meeting was not originally scheduled to be held in November 2018 however, as a result of Council resolving to amend the date of the Statutory meeting from 12 November to 26 November 2018, a Planning Committee meeting can now be scheduled for 19 November 2018.

Options for Consideration

Option 1 – Resolve to reschedule the Council meeting from 5 November to 7 November 2018 and add a Planning Committee meeting on the 19 November 2018. This is the preferred option.

Option 2 – Not resolve to reschedule the Council meeting from 5 November to 7 November 2018 and add a Planning Committee meeting on the 19 November 2018. This is not the preferred option.

Financial and Resource Implications

The advertising of the amended meeting dates will be incorporated into the advertising cost when the 2018 Council meeting and Planning Committee meeting dates are advertised in early January 2018.

Risk Management

Nil

Policy Implications

Economic Development

Nil

Environmental Sustainability

Nil

Human Rights, Equity and Inclusion

Nil

Other

Nil

Future Actions

• Update the 2018 schedule of meetings and Council web site with the revised Council and Planning Committee dates.

Consultation and Advocacy

- Coordinator Council Business
- Manager Corporate Information and Governance

Related Documents

• Council Minutes – 13 November 2017

Attachments

Nil

Disclosure of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

The Officer reviewing this report, having made enquiries with relevant members of staff, reports that no disclosable interests have been raised in relation to this report.

9. CONSIDERATION OF RESPONSES TO PETITIONS, NOTICES OF MOTION AND GENERAL BUSINESS

Nil

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

10.1ADANI FREE CITY

Councillor: Trent MCCARTHY

NoM No.: 340

Take notice that at the Council Meeting to be held on 4 December 2017, it is my intention to move:

"That Council:

- (1) Council officers provide a report to Council in February 2018, after obtaining appropriate legal advice, outlining available mechanisms, any potential risks, costs and proposed policy or procedural changes to give lawful effect to advancing Darebin as an "Adani Free City".
- (2) Council officers take the necessary steps to ensure that, at the conclusion of existing binding contracts, lawful consideration is given to ceasing any future association with organisations known to have a financial interest in, provide goods or services to or otherwise support the proposed Adani Carmichael Coal Mine until such time as that association is ceased."

Notice Received:	21 November 2017
Notice Given to Councillors	27 November 2017
Date of Meeting:	4 December 2017

10.2 CELEBRATING DAREBIN'S NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNERS

Councillor: Trent MCCARTHY

NoM No.: 341

Take notice that at the Council Meeting to be held on 4 December 2017, it is my intention to move:

That Council:

- (1) Congratulates Dimity Hawkins and Dave Sweeney, the Preston-based founders of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), for their recent announcement as the 2017 winners of the Nobel Peace Prize.
- (2) Holds a commemorative event and commissions a prominently-located public mural celebrating ICAN's founders, their 10-year journey and the Nobel Peace Prize they have received.
- (3) Works with ICAN to engage local students and young people in this significant story and distributes information for use in schools and other community settings to inspire active citizenship on local and global issues."

Notice Received:	21 November 2017
Notice Given to Councillors	27 November 2017
Date of Meeting:	4 December 2017

11. REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

Nil

12. RECORDS OF ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS

12.1 ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCILLORS HELD

An Assembly of Councillors is defined in section 3 of the *Local Government Act 1989* to include Advisory Committees of Council if at least one Councillor is present or, a planned or scheduled meeting attended by at least half of the Councillors and one Council Officer that considers matters intended or likely to be the subject of a Council decision.

Written records of Assemblies of Councillors must be kept and include the names of all Councillors and members of Council staff attending, the matters considered, any conflict of interest disclosures made by a Councillor attending, and whether a Councillor who has disclosed a conflict of interest leaves the assembly.

Pursuant to section 80A (2) of the Act, these records must be, as soon as practicable, reported at an ordinary meeting of the Council and incorporated in the minutes of that meeting.

An Assembly of Councillors record was kept for:

- Councillor Briefing Session 9 November 2017
- Councillor Briefing Session 9 November 2017
- Darebin Education Committee 14 November 2017
- NURP Steering Committee 16 November 2017
- •

Recommendation

That the record of the Assembly of Councillors held on 9, 14, 16 November 2017 and attached as **Appendix A** to this report, be noted and incorporated in the minutes of this meeting.

Related Documents

• Local Government Act 1989

Attachments

• Assembly of Councillors - 4 December 2017 (Appendix A) J



ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

ASSEMBLY DETAILS:	Title:	Councillor Briefing Session
	Date:	9 November 2017
	Location:	Northcote Town Hall
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Councillors Kim Le Cerf (Mayor), Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor) Steph Amir, Susan Rennie, Julie Williams, Susanne Newton - by phone then in person from 5.57pm
	Council Staff:	Sue Wilkinson, Darren Rudd
	Other:	Nil
APOLOGIES:		Nil

The Assembly commenced at 5.15pm

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Preston Market	No disclosures were made.
2	Penders Park	No disclosures were made.

The Assembly concluded at 6.20pm

RECORD	Officer Name:	Sue Wilkinson
COMPLETED BY:	Officer Title:	Chief Executive Officer



ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

ASSEMBLY DETAILS:	Title:	Councillor Briefing Session
	Date:	9 November 2017
	Location:	Northcote Town Hall
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Councillors Kim Le Cerf (Mayor), Gaetano Greco (Deputy Mayor) Steph Amir, Susanne Newton, , Susan Rennie, Julie Williams
	Council Staff:	Sue Wilkinson
	Other:	Nil
APOLOGIES:		Nil

The Assembly commenced at 6.20pm

	MATTERS CONSIDERED	DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Organisational Review Update	No disclosures were made.
2	Statutory Meeting of Council 13 November 2017	No disclosures were made.

The Assembly concluded at 7.00pm

RECORD	Officer Name:	Sue Wilkinson
COMPLETED BY:	Officer Title:	Chief Executive Officer



ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS PUBLIC RECORD

ASSEMBLY DETAILS:	Title:	Darebin Education Committee
	Date:	Tuesday, November 14, 2017 Pearl Room, Darebin Intercultural Centre
	Location:	
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Kim Le Cerf (Mayor), Cr Gaetano Greco
	Council Staff:	Cheryl Hermence, Melanie McCarten, Teneille Summers, Phil O'Brien, Jackie Mansourian
	Other:	Principals and other members of the leadership team from various Darebin schools, including Reservoir High, Thornbury High, Northern College of the Arts and Technology, Reservoir Views Primary, Newlands Primary, Sacred Heart Primary, Maharishi Primary. Also representatives from Department of Education and Training (North East area), and INLLEN.
APOLOGIES:		Principals including Thornbury Primary, Kingsbury Primary, Northcote High and William Ruthven Secondary.

The Assembly commenced at 4.00pm

	MATTERS CONSIDERED	DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Darebin Council's Lifelong Learning Strategy – Engaging with Darebin schools about priorities	No disclosures were made.
2	Respectful Relationships in schools – how can Darebin Council effectively support partner and other interested schools?	No disclosures were made.
3	Changing role of Darebin Council's advisory committees – what value does the Darebin Education Committee bring to the partnership between Darebin schools and Darebin Council?	No disclosures were made.
4	Sharing news and priorities for 2018 around the table	No disclosures were made.

The Assembly concluded at 6.00pm

RECORD	Officer Name:	Jackie Mansourian
COMPLETED BY:	Officer Title:	Community Renewal Officer



ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS – PUBLIC RECORD

ASSEMBLY DETAILS:	Title:	NURP Steering Committee
	Date:	Thursday 16 November 2017
	Location:	Darebin Intercultural Centre,
		59a Roseberry Avenue, Preston 3072
PRESENT:	Councillors:	Cr Kim Le Cerf, Cr Lina Messina, Cr Steph Amir, Cr. Julie Williams, Cr Gaetano Greco
	Council Staff:	Eddy Boscariol, Joanna Cuscaden, Richard Stal, Peter Mondy, Richard Sota.
	Other:	City of Banyule councillor, external industry representatives, representatives from DHHS, Latrobe University, NCAT, DELWP, Olympic Adult Education,
APOLOGIES:		

The Assembly commenced at 10.00am

MATTERS CONSIDERED		DISCLOSURES AND COMMENTS
1	Community consultation and NURP Project	No disclosures were made
2	T. W. Blake workshop	No disclosures were made

The Assembly concluded at 12.00pm

RECORD	Officer Name:	Richard Stal
COMPLETED BY:	Officer Title:	Project Support Officer

13. REPORTS BY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

Recommendation

That Council note the Reports by Mayor and Councillors.

14. CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS CONSIDERED CONFIDENTIAL

Nil

15. CLOSE OF MEETING